City Administrator's Report

June 2007

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

James L. Armstrong
jarmstrong@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
(805) 564-5301

Tony Ruggieri
truggieri@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
(805) 564-5311

The City Administrator's Monthly Report is no longer being printed as part of our Sustainable Santa Barbara Program. The following link will take you to the log-in page on the City website, where you can subscribe to an electronic version of the City Administrator's Monthly Report: http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/E-Subscription/Esub_Userlogin.htm.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Gunther in the City Administrator's Office at (805) 564-5305.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Click on any item in the Table of Contents for more information.

Key Meetings 2
Community Events 2
Flags on State Street 3
City Administrator 3
City of Santa Barbara Adopts Modified 9/80 Schedule: Extended customer service hours part of plan 3
Santa Barbara Becomes First Southern California City to Certify Global Warming Emissions 3
Administrative Services 4
Human Resources Quarterly Meetings 4
City to Conduct a Stand-Alone Election 4
Airport 5
Website Launched for Airline Terminal Project 5
Hangar 5 Surface Water Issue Resolved 5
New Consolidated Rental Car Facility Design 5
Airport Receives $13.8 Million Grant for Airfield Projects 5
Community Development Department 5
City to Launch Community Workshops for Plan Santa Barbara 5
Planning Commission Update 6
Finance Department 6
April Transient Occupancy Tax up 4.6% 6

Budget Review Process Nearing Completion 7
Fire Department 7
Defensible Space in the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment District 7
Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Training 7
Library Department 8
Literacy Workshop 8
Parks and Recreation Department 8
Parks and Recreation Commission to Offer Meeting Videos Online. 8
Summer Camps. 8
Summer Concert Series. 8
July 4th Events 9
Mission Creek Steelhead Fish Passage Project 9
Tree Inventory. 9
Women's Golf Week 9
Youth Council Speak-Out. 9
Police Department 10
Tagger Caught Red-Handed 10
Pedestrian Train Fatality 10
Bold Burglars Busted 10
Public Works Department 11
Map Vault Archive Project. 12
Milpas Street Beautification Project Completed 12
Reservoir No. 1 Structural Repair and Groundwater Control Project 13
Waterfront Department 13
Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund Grant 13
Bird Deaths and Domoic Acid Poisoning. 13
Breakwater Cap Repair Project – Phase 2 13

Key Meetings

June 5, 12, 19, & 26: ***City Council Meetings***, City Hall Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2 p.m.

Community Events

June 2: ***Big Dog Parade***, 9:30 a.m., begins at De La Guerra and State and ends at Old Chase Palm Park. For more information, go to www.bigdogs.com.

June 10: ***Santa Barbara Caribbean Festival***, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Oak Park. For more information, go to http://caribbean.santabarbara.com

June 23: ***Summer Solstice Parade***, Noon, begins at State and Cota Streets and ends at State and Micheltorena Streets. For more information, go to http://www.solsticeparade.com

Flags on State Street: www.santabarbaradowntown.com

May 29 – June 4	Big Dog Foundation
June 4 – June 11	GaySantaBarbara.org
June 11 - June 15	Flag Day (American Flags)
June 15 – June 25	Summer Solstice
June 25 – July 2	Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens

City Administrator

City of Santa Barbara Adopts Modified 9/80 Schedule: Extended customer service hours part of plan. In an effort to decrease traffic congestion during peak commuter hours and to reduce vehicle emissions, City Council has approved a new compressed "9/80" work schedule to begin July 9, 2007.

Under the newly adopted 9/80 Schedule, employees will work 80 hours in nine work days rather than the conventional ten work days. To better serve the public, many offices, public counters, and departments will be open for an additional hour on Monday through Thursday. Offices will be closed every other Friday. The first closed Friday is scheduled for July 13, 2007.

The new schedule will not affect police, fire, emergency services, water and wastewater treatment plants, waterfront department, library, recreation programs or community centers.

For a list of office hours, and a schedule of Friday closures, please visit the City's website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Santa Barbara Becomes First Southern California City to Certify Global Warming Emissions. The City of Santa Barbara became the first Southern California city to certify its greenhouse gas emissions inventory with the California Climate Action Registry, earning the Registry's distinction of *Climate Action Leader*. The Climate Action Registry is a non-profit public/private partnership that helps companies and organizations throughout the United States to track, publicly report and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The Registry is recognized as the gold standard for public reporting of greenhouse gases. Reducing emissions from the City's operations helps protect the environment from climate change. Measuring the emissions is the first step in understanding how the City can reduce its carbon footprint. The City will now analyze the data and develop a strategy to reduce emissions.

The City is taking many steps to reduce global warming emissions throughout its vehicle fleet and facilities. The City uses B20 biodiesel fuel in City vehicles, including fire engines and construction equipment. Whenever available, the City purchases alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles. Employees are encouraged to ride a bicycle, walk, or carpool to run errands between

City facilities. Flexible schedules and telecommuting are also promoted to reduce traffic congestion and vehicle emissions.

Energy conservation and the use of renewable energy in facilities is a top priority. All traffic signals operate on Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting. A Green Building Policy was adopted to curb energy consumption in new construction, major renovations, and building retrofits. A recently completed fuel cell generator at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant transforms methane gas to electrical energy on a daily basis, supplying enough energy for 500 homes. Approximately 23% of the City's total electrical energy use is derived from renewable energy.

To learn more information about the City's sustainable efforts, go to the 2007 Annual Sustainable Santa Barbara Report at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

City TV Channel 18 Airs Inside Santa Barbara. *Inside Santa Barbara* is a monthly, thirty-minute newsmagazine that informs citizens on important City issues, projects, and events. In the June episode of Inside Santa Barbara, City TV covers illegal dumping at the local Salvation Army store, the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan, the new Citywide 9/80 schedule for City offices, biking in Santa Barbara, the San Marcos High School Earth Club, the 70th Anniversary of the Lawn Bowling Club, and the water awareness high school video contest. The June episode of *Inside Santa Barbara* airs on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:30 p.m. on City TV Channel 18. Check out www.citytv18.com for more information.

Administrative Services

Human Resources Quarterly Meetings. Every quarter staff from Human Resources, the City Attorney's Office, the City Administrator's Office and Employee Relations meet with the managers and supervisors of all City departments. Topics discussed include recruitments and vacancies, introduction of an on-line application tracking system, performance evaluations, employee training, 9/80 flexible scheduling, Interdepartmental Work Groups, Succession Planning, the Employee Handbook and the status of labor negotiations. Future meetings will include Benefits information regarding FMLA and other benefits-related topics. These meetings have been well received and are intended to improve communication and the flow of information between Human Resources and City departments.

City to Conduct a Stand-Alone Election. Due to the increased expense of the County to hold the City's elections, staff researched the possibility of conducting its own election, and the cost that would be incurred. Estimates indicate that the City could save nearly 50% if it were to run its own election. These figures, as well as a staff report, were presented to the Council at a work session held on January 29, 2007. At that time, Council had many questions and requested that staff research the issue further and return to Council on a later date.

On April 24, 2007, staff presented a report to the City Council and the Council voted unanimously in support of the City holding a stand-alone election to fill three Councilmember seats on November 6, 2007. A proposed charter amendment was also presented and approved by the Council and will be voted on by the people in order to change elections from odd- to even-numbered years. The charter amendment, if passed, would decrease the cost to the City since the City could participate in a consolidated election with the County and other jurisdictions during even years.

The City Clerk's Office is currently working with consultants and following a work plan, which includes extensive public outreach, in preparation for the election. If you have any questions regarding the election process, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 564-5309.

Airport

Website Launched for Airline Terminal Project. A special website was created for the project as a link from the Airport's website; http://future.flysba.com/. The project website will serve as a public information tool for the Airline Terminal Improvement Project. The website also includes a 'Project Guide' that was published in the Santa Barbara Independent last month. The 'Guide' is a downloadable document from the website, additionally; a quarterly newsletter will be available soon. The project website will provide updates in addition to the existing general project information and historical background on the Airline Terminal.

Hangar 5 Surface Water Issue Resolved. A hybrid French/trench drain with a dewatering scheme was designed by Penfield & Smith Engineers to alleviate water in the area that had been surfacing for over two years due to a high water table. The subsurface water has been effectively captured and drained leaving the aircraft apron dry since the drain has been in place. The two month installation by Tierra Construction was completed last month at a cost of approximately $200,000.

New Consolidated Rental Car Facility Design. In 2008, a Quick-Turn-Around (QTA) facility for rental cars will be constructed on a 3.4 acre site on David Love Place near Hollister Avenue. The $687,000 design of the facility is being performed by Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville Architects for a building cost of approximately $6.8 million. The QTA is expected to be built in anticipation of the new Airline Terminal Project which is scheduled to begin phased construction in late 2008. The QTA will function to provide fueling, minor maintenance services; vehicle washing, and vehicle storage while rental car counters, offices and ready-return parking spaces will be included in the new Terminal complex. Design and construction of the Airline Terminal and QTA Projects will incorporate green building principles to obtain LEED Certification.

Airport Receives $13.8 Million Grant for Airfield Projects. Last week an Airport Improvement Project grant was received from the Federal Aviation Administration for the current main runway 7-25 safety overrun area and taxiway relocation projects at the Airport. The funding will cover 36% of the entire project costs of approximately $37.5 million dollars, which includes $9 million in environmental mitigation.

Community Development Department

City to Launch Community Workshops for Plan Santa Barbara. On Wednesday, May 30th, the City will begin sending out announcements to Santa Barbara residents, about a series of community workshops for review of the general plan. Called "Plan Santa Barbara," the first workshop series will provide a venue for the public to express their vision for Santa Barbara's future. These meetings will launch a two-year comprehensive public involvement process that

will influence how the City looks at policies and procedures that will shape the future of Santa Barbara.

The workshops, to be held in June and July, represent the first of many opportunities that will allow the public to be involved. The City will offer Spanish translation and Spanish-speaking facilitators at each workshop.

Along with the workshops, City staff is meeting with more than 100 community groups and organizations. These presentations allow community members to meet directly with City staff, hear first-hand about Plan Santa Barbara and provide input into the process. Anyone wishing to have a presentation may contact the City at the 897-2509 to schedule a meeting.

Additionally, the City has developed a website, www.YouPlanSB.org, which contains detailed information, receive updates, review progress, and most importantly – allows the public to share their input.

Plan Santa Barbara Community Workshops will be held on the dates listed below. The same workshop will be repeated four times to offer many opportunities to get involved.

Wednesday, June 13: 6-9pm, Faulkner Gallery, 40 E. Anapamu Street
Saturday, June 16: 9am-noon, La Casa de la Raza, 601 E. Montecito Street
Thursday, June 28: 6-9pm, Westside Community Center, 423 W. Victoria Street
Saturday, July 7: 9am-noon, Hope School, 3970 La Colina Road

Planning Commission Update. The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on June 7th, 14th and 21st. However, the June 14th meeting may be cancelled due to lack of items.

Important projects up for Planning Commission consideration in June include the replacement of the Cabrillo Boulevard bridge over Mission Creek, which is tentatively scheduled for June 21st.

Finance Department

April Transient Occupancy Tax up 4.6% Through ten months of the fiscal year we are up 6.1% over the same period from the prior fiscal year. This continues to be consistent with our year-end projections.

In order to not skew the year-over-year comparison, the table below does not include additional revenue generated from TOT audits.

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES								
Month	FY 2004	Change from Prior Year	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year
July	$ 1,198,952	1.3%	$ 1,301,652	8.6%	$ 1,477,789	13.5%	$ 1,556,439	5.3%
Aug	1,349,990	1.6%	1,357,717	0.6%	1,504,589	10.8%	1,591,998	5.8%
Sept	887,095	4.5%	931,244	5.0%	1,109,428	19.1%	1,196,533	7.9%
Oct	863,919	4.1%	914,718	5.9%	963,261	5.3%	1,051,043	9.1%
Nov	696,742	1.7%	721,982	3.6%	809,684	12.1%	887,047	9.6%
Dec	553,094	4.4%	575,075	4.0%	671,965	16.8%	669,540	-0.4%
Jan	584,653	0.2%	606,484	3.7%	661,507	9.1%	677,428	2.4%
Feb	703,493	14.1%	699,349	-0.6%	738,532	5.6%	758,041	2.6%
Mar	782,652	11.0%	872,554	11.5%	855,597	-1.9%	953,927	11.5%
April	875,760	10.4%	941,281	7.5%	1,000,696	6.3%	1,046,885	4.6%
May	895,378	9.6%	1,001,450	11.8%	1,015,349	1.4%		
June	973,955	3.3%	1,157,985	18.9%	1,223,974	5.7%		**YTD**
FY Total	**$ 10,365,683**	**5.1%**	**$ 11,081,490**	**6.9%**	**$ 12,032,372**	**8.6%**	**$ 10,388,881**	**6.1%**
Budget	**$ 10,273,900**		**$ 10,684,900**		**$ 11,504,200**		**$ 12,630,600**	

Includes only the 10% unrestricted TOT revenues. Beginning in January 2001, an additional 2% is credited to Creeks/Clean Water (Measure B).

Budget Review Process Nearing Completion. The City Council's budget review process is scheduled to be completed on June 7th. The Council has a budget work session on Monday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at which time the Library, Parks and Recreation and Police departments will make their department budget presentations. On Thursday, June 7th, the Council will meet again to receive the Finance Committee's budget recommendations and to give final direction to staff on any desired amendments to the recommended budget. Budget adoption is scheduled for Tuesday, June 29th.

Fire Department

Defensible Space in the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment District. As a result of information sent out to the residents of the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment District, the Fire Department has received 75 requests for Voluntary Defensible Space property evaluations. Fire personnel are going through a defensible space checklist with the property owners or residents, evaluating their property for clearance of flammable vegetation. The check list is used to assist in creating a defensible space plan. Owners and residents who complete the recommendations will reduce the threat of Wildland fires, provide better protection of their homes, and also meet the City's Defensible Space Standards.

Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Training. On April 21, 2007 six firefighters completed 40 hours of training in child passenger safety and are now certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians through Safe Kids USA. The National Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training Program certifies individuals as child passenger safety technicians and instructors. Tens of thousands of individuals have been certified since the program began in 1997.

CPS technicians and instructors put their knowledge to work through a variety of activities, including child safety seat checks where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child restraint systems and safety belts.

With these additional six employees, the department now has a total of 10 Certified Technicians, which will allow us to complete even more of these important safety inspections on a regular basis.

Library Department

Literacy Workshop. The California State Library continues to provide ongoing support to the library's Adult Literacy Tutoring Program. Recently, the library hosted a Saturday writing workshop for learners and tutors paid for by the California State Library. In addition, an adult learner was able to go to a regional learner conference in Ontario with a scholarship for registration, housing, and travel supported by the California State Library. In June, one of our tutors will go to a regional tutor conference in San Diego courtesy of a state scholarship program for volunteer tutors!

Parks and Recreation Department

Parks and Recreation Commission to Offer Meeting Videos Online. The June 27th meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be recorded and the video will be offered as part of the "City Meetings & Videos Online" service. Like City Council Meetings, the Parks and Recreation Commission will eventually maintain an archive of one year of meeting videos and linked minutes. This is the first Advisory Group to participate in a project that will eventually see all of the currently televised Advisory Group meetings posted on the City's web site.

Summer Camps. A full summer of camps start June 25th; with 17 types of camps, including the familiar Aqua and Nature Camps. New this summer are: Ceramics – Summer Clay Camp, Just-4-Kicks Soccer Clinic and Bullseye Archery Clinic. Registrations spaces are still available by going online to the web site, www.sbparksandrecreation.com, and using eRecreation to register, or by calling 564-5418.

Summer Concert Series. Over 40,000 Santa Barbara County residents have enjoyed a variety of FREE concerts every summer for the last six years on Thursday evenings in Chase Palm Park and Sunday afternoons in Alameda Park. We encourage you to join us again this summer---don't forget your blankets, low-backed chairs and a picnic dinner. More information: 897-1982. The Summer 2007's concert schedule is as follows:

Chase Palm Park, Thursdays, 6 to 8:30pm

Thursday, June 28th, Benise, Nouveau Flamenco
Thursday, July 5, Scott Martin Latin Soul Band, Latin Jazz
Thursday, July 12, Big Sandy and his Fly-Rite Boys, American Roots/Rockabilly
Thursday, July 19, Captain Cardiac and the Coronaries, 50s-60s Rock & Roll
Thursday, July 26, Coldwater Canyon, Honky Tonk Country
Thursday, August 9, Pacific Sound, Men's A Cappella Chorus
Thursday, August 16, Wayword Sons, Bluegrass
Thursday, August 23, Lisa Haley and the Zydekats, Swamp Roots Rock

Alameda Park, Sundays, 3 to 4:30pm

Sunday, July 1, The Anthony Ybarra Trio, Flamenco
Sunday, July 8, The Mark Roberts Band, California Rock
Sunday, July 15, Lady Blue and the Roadhouse Daddies, Sassy Blues & Jazz
Sunday, July 22, Pat Milliken & Friends, Classic Acoustic Rock

July 4th Events. Fireworks, free to the public, will be held at West Beach this year from 9 to 9:15 pm. Food vendors will be present along Cabrillo Boulevard in front of West Beach for refreshments. Other surprises are in store for entertainment before the fireworks show, watch for the Press Release in June.

Mission Creek Steelhead Fish Passage Project. On May 8, 2007, the City Council accepted a $155,000 grant from the California Department of Fish and Game and $180,000 from the Environmental Defense Center (EDC) to conduct flume model testing to identify a feasible alternative for modifying the Caltrans Channel to make it passable for steelhead trout. The EDC funds were provided by a grant from the Annenberg Foundation. Of all the creeks in the City of Santa Barbara, Mission Creek is considered the most viable stream for steelhead trout restoration. Mission Creek contains high quality spawning and rearing habitat within the stream channels in the mid and upper watershed and currently has an existing population of rainbow trout (freshwater version of steelhead trout). Mission Creek also has a documented historic run of steelhead trout, and each year steelhead trout unsuccessfully attempt to migrate and spawn within the lower stream channel.

Tree Inventory. On May 22, 2007, City Council authorized the Parks and Recreation Department to perform a street tree and park tree inventory in the city. The last tree inventory was prepared in the early 1990's. West Coast Arborist, Inc. (WCA) will be performing the tree inventory data collection. The City has approximately 30,000 street trees sites, which include sites where current trees exist and also sites where trees have been located in the past and would be located in the future. WCA will also conduct an inventory in six City parks that contribute significantly to Santa Barbara's horticultural heritage. These parks include Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden, Franceschi Park, Upper and Lower Orpet and the two Alameda Parks. The updated tree inventory will provide the City with recommendations for tree species, planting locations and potential removals, and will also provide Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) coordinates for each City tree. This collection will allow the City to consolidate the tree data with other GPS coded programs in the City.

Women's Golf Week. The Santa Barbara Golf Club will host its second annual celebration of women golfers, June 2 through June 8. There will be several special events; including a women's golf clinic (June 2), free 10 minute women's golf lessons (June 8), 2-for-1 range tokens (June 7) and greens fees (June 4). Other events include a fashion trunk show, ½ price carts for women (June 6) and happy hour at Mulligan's Café.

Youth Council Speak-Out. The Alcohol & Drug Abuse Teen Coalition (ADAP) is a coalition of teens in Santa Barbara who advocate and work to reduce underage drinking and the negative impact on the community. The Santa Barbara Youth Council and ADAP invited Future Leaders of America, Friday Night Live, Shape of Voice and the County of Santa Barbara to present a Community & Youth Speak Out on May 14th, which provided a safe venue for teens and the community to "speak out."

ADAP is part of Project Access a county-wide coalition funded by the county of Santa Barbara Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services (ADMHS), which utilizes the environmental prevention approach to reduce underage drinking.

Panelists included Mayor Marty Blum, ADMHS Prevention Director Al Rodriguez, Ventura County Deputy Sheriff Geoff Dean, Friday Night Live member Jose Aldapa, and ADAP member Christina Gonzalez. Moderated by KCSB News Director Cathy Murillo, the Community & Youth Speak Out attracted 90 community members, along with First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal, City Administrator Jim Armstrong, City councilman Grant House and positive media coverage from KEYT Channel 3.

Police Department

Tagger Caught Red-Handed. On May 17th, officers on bicycle patrol spotted a juvenile suspect spray painting graffiti on a railroad car. As Officers approached, the suspect took off running as only a highly motivated teen-aged male can. Despite his intense desire to not be apprehended, the suspect was caught with the assistance of a police canine. The suspect, a 14-year-old male from Carpinteria, confessed to spray-painting graffiti at 70 locations through-out Santa Barbara and Goleta. He also claimed to have etched the windows on numerous MTD buses.

Pedestrian Train Fatality. On May 15th at 7:20 p.m., a 47-year-old local male transient was killed while crossing the railroad tracks at Milpas Street. A witness driving a car was stopped for the flashing lights and lowered railroad crossing signs. With the approaching train fully in view, the witness saw the victim shuffle past the barrier, “staggering a little.” With lowered eyes, the victim hastened, oblivious to the impending danger. Foreseeing the macabre consequences of ignoring the triple warnings of lights, bells, and barrier, the witness shouted for the man to “stop!” The warning went unheeded. Alone at the controls, the train engineer issued one final warning by sounding the air horn, simultaneous to locking the brakes. These desperate measures provoked no improved response. The train struck the victim, causing sudden death. The coroner took possession of the body and notified the next-of-kin, who live in Phoenix, AZ. Ironically, the victim had mere days before been issued an arrest warrant for “Trespassing on Railroad Property.”

Bold Burglars Busted. On May 11th, four male teenagers parked their car in front of 1510 Garden Street and went to Kid’s World. They returned to find suspects trying to break into their car with screwdrivers. The victims tried to prevent the break-in, but were threatened and chased away. One suspect used a brick to smash out one of the car’s window. The suspects took various property items from the car and ran. Numerous residents called 911 with reports of teenagers running all over the neighborhood. Responding officers fanned out, and followed the chaotic reports of suspect sightings. Three suspects were tracked down in the 800 block of North Nopal Street, over a mile from the crime scene! A police canine assisted in the arrest of all three suspects. Two of them live in the apartment complex at 1510 Garden Street. Charges against the suspects, ages 16, 15, and 15, include burglary, possession of stolen property, threatening witnesses, and violation of probation.

Public Works Department

Diverting Foodscraps from the Landfill. The City's Pilot Foodscrap Recovery and Composting Program is now in full swing with Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara City College, and the Sojourner Restaurant participating. Everything from carrot tops to meat carvings are accepted in the City's yellow foodscrap carts. The material is picked up Monday through Friday and hauled to a certified composting facility, where it is turned into a valuable soil amendment and used on local agricultural lands. After just one month, several tons of foodscraps have been collected and diverted from the landfill!

Water Conservation Receives Flex Your Power Award. The City's Water Conservation Program received a "Flex Your Power" Honorable Mention Award for 2007 in the Energy Efficiency category. This award recognizes the significant efforts taken by the Water Conservation Program to reduce water usage both within the City organization and throughout the community. Water conservation is honored for energy efficiency because it reduces the power used to transport and treat water. The City was chosen from hundreds of applicants to receive one of only forty-one awards.

Upper Mesa and Bel Air/Portesuello Hill areas to get Street Sweeping in July. A 43 curb mile addition in the Upper Mesa, Bel Air Hill, and TV Hill areas are set to see the street sweeper starting this July as the Fiscal Year 2008 expansion of residential street sweeping is implemented. The new area will be swept without signage or parking restrictions, with the exception of Red Rose Way and Camino Calma, where parking restriction signs will be installed in June to provide clearance for the sweeper. Sweeping begins on July 6, 2007, but enforcement on the posted blocks starts August 3, 2007 giving drivers a one month grace period. A flyer was mailed to some 1,700 residences notifying them of the new sweeping program and inviting them to a public informational meeting on May 17, 2007, which three people attended.

The new areas and sweeping schedule are:

- Upper Mesa east of Miegs, first and third Fridays 8 to Noon.
- Upper Mesa west of Miegs, second and fourth Fridays 8 to Noon.
- Bel Air, Portesuello, W. Valerio area, second and fourth Fridays, 8 to Noon.
- Red Rose Way and Camino Calma odd side, first and third Fridays 8 to 9 a.m.
- Red Rose Way and Camino Calma even side, second and fourth Fridays 8 to 9 a.m.

Sidewalk Repair Project. This year's sidewalk repair bids came in lower than expected and the contractor hit the ground running. The contractor was given 60 days for completion of the project and it looks like the contractor will complete his work in less than a month. Approximately 10,000 square feet of sidewalk will be replaced this year. The sidewalk locations are taken from the very long list of problem sidewalks throughout the city.

Union Pacific Corridor Clean Up. A crew of California Conservation Corp workers completed its second monthly clean up in May. The work was completed along the rail road corridor between Cota Street and the Castillo Street railroad trestle. During the four-day cleanup project the crew cut, removed and chipped enough brush to equal 24 cubic yards of mulch that was spread in the area to prevent future weed growth. City staff removed 15 cubic yards of trash/debris and graffiti from nearby walls and painted over graffiti on the inside of the trestle.

This is the first time we used a new format called the "Form B system" ensuring that all train traffic cannot proceed through the work area unless James Russell; City Streets Maintenance Supervisor, gives the "we are in the clear" call to the Union Pacific dispatcher.

State Street Sidewalk Improvement Project – Phase IV. The State Street Sidewalk Improvements Project (400 and 500 blocks) is very close to completion, including the sidewalks and the landscaping. Pedestrians may now enjoy the new State Street brick sidewalks and landscaping from Gutierrez to Victoria Streets! In addition to the 400 and 500 blocks, minor corrective work was done in the 1000, 1100, and 1200 blocks, too. This project is the final phase of the State Street Sidewalk improvements that began in 1999. Remaining to be installed are the benches. The Mayor's ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 9, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Map Vault Archive Project. The Engineering Division of the Public Works Department is hard at work arranging to have all of the City maps housed in the Engineering Map Vault (an estimated 16,000+, including those from the early 1900's!) inventoried and scanned into an electronic file format for placement in their "electronic library." The idea originated because the map vault was reaching its storage capacity. This project is an accomplishment on many levels since it will transform vault space currently used for storage to a "map workstation" area for staff to review plans. This also promotes desktop accessibility to City maps for all of the Engineering Division, and allows us to assist the public more quickly and efficiently with map requests. Finally, this effort will result in further promoting the City's sustainability efforts by significantly reducing the need to copy drawings.

Sanitary Sewer Wet Weather Capacity Improvements Completed. This project replaced 3,200 feet of existing 12 to18-inch main with new 24-inch sewer main along the 400-600 blocks of Montecito Street and up Quarantina Street to the Middle School. During the heavy rains of 2006, water infiltration had overloaded the existing system. This project began construction in September 2006 near the Laguna Street freeway off ramp, with open trenches that were up to 14 feet deep. Whitaker Contractors continued diligently, and with the help of a dry winter, completed the project on schedule. The true benefit of this project will be revealed when the heavy rains return to Santa Barbara. A ribbon cutting will be held on Thursday, June 14 at 10:30a.m. on the 700 Block of Spring Street.

Milpas Street Beautification Project Completed. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on May 14th to celebrate the completion of the Milpas Street Beautification Project which includes pedestrian-friendly enhancements between Quenientos and Canon Perdido Streets. The improvements include sidewalk repair, addition of pedestrian lighting, bus stop upgrades, newly painted sign poles and utility boxes, curb bulb-outs at Milpas and Canon Perdido Streets, and new trash receptacles. The project improves the area and focus resources on developing balanced transportation and mobility solutions to meet City goals. The project meets the City's Pedestrian Master Plan goals and promotes alternative forms of transportation including pedestrian and bus travel as part of the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program.

The project was accomplished through close collaboration between the City, the Milpas Merchant's Association and the Eastside Study Group who worked to overcome the many challenges associated with the project. Following a diligent public outreach program with the community groups and City Boards and Commissions, a design was developed with the Milpas Street community's support. The project was funded with Measure D funds.

***Reservoir No. 1 Structural Repair and Groundwater Control Project*.** The project consists of removing a section of damaged concrete liner and replacing it with a thickened liner, along with installing a groundwater relief system. Two roof support sections also need repair. Other improvements include replacement of the reservoir drain line and the valve house structure, along with installation of a flow meter on the inlet line to the reservoir. The project will start in August 2007 and is estimated to be completed by May 2008.

Waterfront Department

Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund Grant The California Department of Boating and Waterways recently issued the Waterfront Department an additional $45,000 Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF) grant to help remove abandoned, derelict, grounded or sunk vessels from City waters and beaches. Staff used the previous $73,500 AWAF grant to dispose of a total of 23 boats. Each grant has a typical term of 15 months and requires a 10% match from the City. While grateful for the grant assistance, the Department continues to pursue payment from the owners of abandoned or wrecked boats. Current operability ordinance requirements ensure that boats anchored, moored or berthed in City waters can maneuver safely on their own to the open ocean and back.

Bird Deaths and Domoic Acid Poisoning. In April, Harbor Patrol collected over 200 dead birds (45% cormorants, 45% grebes and 10% pelicans) from the ocean waters and beaches of the City. Also, a handful of dead sea lions were towed offshore for disposal. Just as it intercepts sand drifting down-coast, the harbor acts like a catch basin for debris and deceased wildlife. The birds appear to have died from ingesting domoic acid, a naturally occurring toxin produced by microscopic algae that builds up in the tissue of fish and shellfish. Domoic acid poisoning results when high concentrations of the toxin are ingested by predators such as marine mammals or sea birds, which feed on small fish and shellfish. Impacts to marine wildlife experienced in Santa Barbara have also been experienced throughout Southern California. For the past several years, this has been a typical occurrence in springtime, but scientists say this year's domoic acid event is the worst ever.

Breakwater Cap Repair Project – Phase 2 Cushman Contracting Corporation continues to make good progress on the Breakwater Cap Repair Project. By mid-May, twenty-two concrete sections have been formed and poured completing the walkway portion of the project. The parapet wall is in the process of being formed and poured in alternating panels. The four-month project is expected to be completed by the end of June.